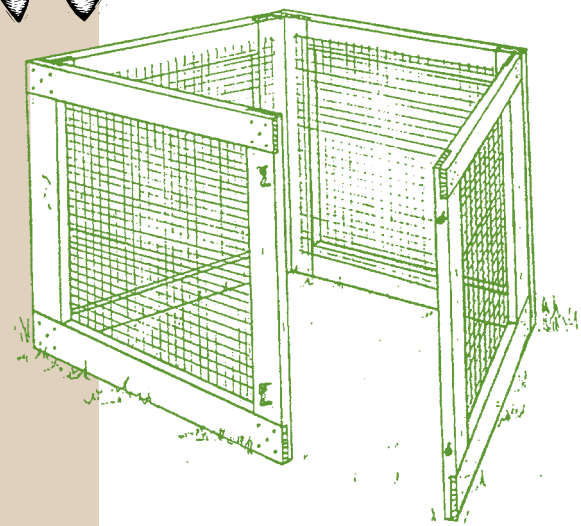
Portable holding unit

A portable bin provides a convenient way to compost moderate volumes of yard debris with minimal labor.

Yard debris is simply added to the bin as it is generated. With no effort besides occasional moistening, compost will be ready in 6 months to 2 years. Chopping or shredding materials, maintaining adequate moisture by watering and



covering with plastic or heavy fabric, and occasional turning will produce finished compost in a shorter period of time. Texture of the finished compost depends on the materials composted and how long they are left in the bin. Mixing fresh greens with brown yard debris will produce the best results.

This bin is very flexible. It fits well in small spaces, and may be used either as a yard debris holding bin or as a portable turning unit. The bin can be easily moved to turn piles or to harvest finished compost and build a new pile. Simply undo the latches, pull the sides apart and move it. Compost may then be turned into the bin at its new location

Recycled Recyclable

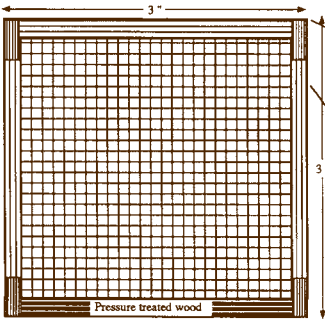


Figure 1.

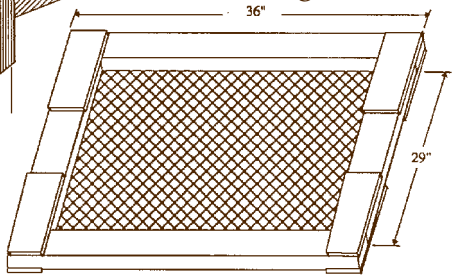


Figure 2.

and finished compost can be removed from the bottom. It costs around $60 to build using new materials, less if recycled materials are used.

Materials:

1–2"x4"x12' (pressure treated)
3–2"x4"x12' fir
12 feet of 36" x 1/2" hardware cloth
100–1 1/2" galvanized No. 8 wood screws
4–3" butt door hinges
150 poultry wire staples or power stapler
1–10 oz. tube exterior wood adhesive
6 large hook and eye gate latches
3–1"x4"x10' (for braces)

Tools:

Hand saw, hammer, screwdriver, tin snips, caulking gun, pencil, small carpenter's square and work gloves. *Use eye and ear protection.*

Construction details:

Cut one treated and one untreated 2"x4"x12' into four 3-foot lengths. Cut 2 2"x4"x12's into 8 pieces 29 inches long. Cut 1"x4"s into 32 10-inch lengths to be used as braces as shown in Figures 1 and 2. Construct each side as per diagram attaching braces as shown.

Make four 3-foot square frames from the lap jointed 2"x4"s. Use one pressure treated 2"x4" on each frame. Put enough wood adhesive to fill the gaps when the lap joints are screwed together. Fasten each joint with four screws.

Cut the hardware cloth with tin snips into four 3-foot square sections. Bend the edges of the cloth back over 1 inch for strength. Lay one onto each of the four frames. Center and tack each corner with a poultry wire staple. Staple every 4 inches along all four edges of the hardware cloth. Try to tension the cloth so it will not sag when filled with compost.

Connect each pair of frames together with two hinges. Then put the hook and eye gate latches on the other ends so that the sections latch together.

The Master Composter/Recycler program
is a cooperative effort of Clark County, Vancouver, Camas, Washougal, Battle Ground, Ridgefield, Yacolt, La Center and Columbia Springs Environmental Education Center.
For information, please call (360) 882-4567.

For an alternative format, contact the Clark County ADA Compliance Office.
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